



NEWSLETTER

Fall 2016

From the Chair - Dr. Jane Kolodinsky



A few fellow faculty members and I were musing last week about a "new" direction toward transdisciplinary thinking in higher education across the board: teaching, research, and outreach. We thought a new CDAE tagline might read: "CDAE, where transdisciplinary is **not** a new concept."

Indeed, because our department houses faculty from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds, and because we offer three different undergraduate majors (Community and International Development, Community Entrepreneurship, and Public Communication), two masters degrees (Community Development and Applied Economics and Public Administration), and five different minors, we have embraced

transdisciplinarity for more than a decade.

One definition of transdisciplinary is "different disciplines working jointly to create new conceptual, theoretical, methodological, and translational innovations that integrate and move beyond discipline-specific approaches to address a common problem."

To tackle challenges facing society, locally, nationally, and globally, clearly a single disciplinary approach will not suffice. Our Fall 2016 issue of the CDAE newsletter showcases the transdisciplinary work of our graduates and faculty.

Whether working on migrant labor issues, in food systems, for non-profit, for-profit or government sector organizations, CDAE graduates tell us that our approach of moving from broad to deep and theoretical to applied has given them the knowledge and skills to work in increasingly complex work environments.

Our graduates' success can be partly attributed to our CDAE faculty embracing each other's disciplinary approach and welcoming approaches that enhance and expand their own backgrounds. Recent faculty publications highlighted in this newsletter issue show collaboration and applied research published in a wide variety of publications, from food systems, community development and climate change to health communication, ecological economics, and management.

We are indeed fortunate to be able to experience freedom of intellectual pursuits and different ways of knowing. Congratulations to all students, faculty and staff on another successful CDAE semester. Here's to 2017! Let us remain relevant and committed to providing the knowledge base and applied experiences that lead to vibrant economies, healthy environments, and civil societies.



Marta Ascherio – MS '11

“Doing my masters in the Community Development and Applied Economics Department at UVM set me up really well for my career because of all the real-world experiences I was offered,” said Marta, who reflected fondly on her graduate work at CDAE. Her M.S. thesis focused on the organizational network that provides services to migrant workers in Vermont. After her graduate work at UVM, Marta worked at an international youth leadership program called Amigos de las Américas in Houston, Texas. As a regional director, she oversaw international partnerships in Latin America, and helped build partnerships to create after-school and summer programs. She is currently a Ph. D. candidate in sociology at the University of Texas-Austin. After her doctoral work, Marta hopes to pursue an academic career at a research university or join an international research institute that focuses on migration.



Marta Ascherio



[Left] Marta's community visits with Plan International in the Andean region of Cotopaxi, Ecuador, where she was on a project with Amigos de las Americas in 2014.

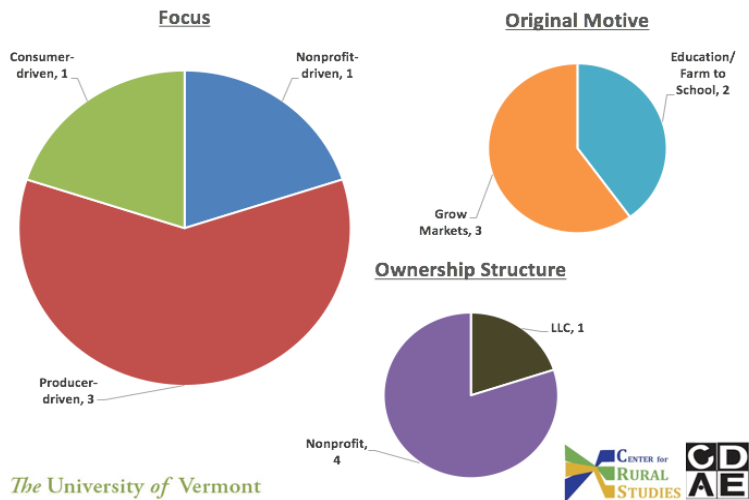
Hannah Harrington - CID '15, Current MS

After earning her B.S. degree in CID, Hannah is currently a second-year graduate student in CDAE. Working with Professor David Conner and others at UVM, Hannah is studying the economic impact of Vermont food hubs -- businesses that aggregate food from small local farms and then distribute it to retailers, restaurants, schools and institutions. The study aims to identify the contribution that food hubs make to the Vermont economy. For her thesis, Hannah is interested in understanding how food hubs communicate the value and specific attributes of local food. According to Hannah, all these organizations are mission driven, adding a layer of complexity and intrigue to the study. She hopes to work in the field of food system or in local government after graduation.

Hannah Harrington



Vermont Food Hubs



Rachel Zellel - MPA '15

Stressing that she is “learning and growing through a MPA lens,” Rachel currently works as the Development Coordinator at the Planned Parenthood of Northern New England in Colchester, Vermont. “It was the electives that I got to take that shaped the program for me,” says Rachel, who learned how to budget for private and public non-profits, as well as fundraising from those courses. After her undergraduate study in sociology from the University of Pittsburg and a few years’ work in banking, Rachel came to UVM for her MPA. For her, the most attractive aspect to the MPA program was the “social impact.”

Benjamin Mervis - PCom '12

Ben started his post-UVM career at the Vermont Department of Health, where he worked on the client side of social marketing to “reduce the burden of chronic disease on all Vermonters.” After his one-year experience at the state office, Ben took a position as an account manager at Rescue, a behavior change marketing company that specializes in public health. He is leading the Influencer Programs and Strategic Partnerships for Rescue’s primary LGBTQ account in L.A. “It was the freedom CDAE offered that helped me to explore different sides of marketing,” said Ben, who particularly pointed out the internships and service learning courses that he has been able to take advantage of in the real world.

Rachel with Her Husband Justin



Ben Mervis



Douglas Kelsey - PCom '15

Doug had this to say about his PCom education at CDAE: "Since we all know life after college can be stressful, PCom provided me with the skills to handle that pressure. Through many persuasion and general Pcom classes, I became very confident when working alone and in a team environment. PCom made me a team player, which is not something you can go without in the modern work environment."

Doug is currently an account manager in New York for Relationship1, an integrated marketing strategy and communications company. As the only transdisciplinary department at the University of Vermont, CDAE taught me how to understand and conceptualize problems from different disciplines and approaches, said Doug.

Andrew Schwartz - CEnt '16

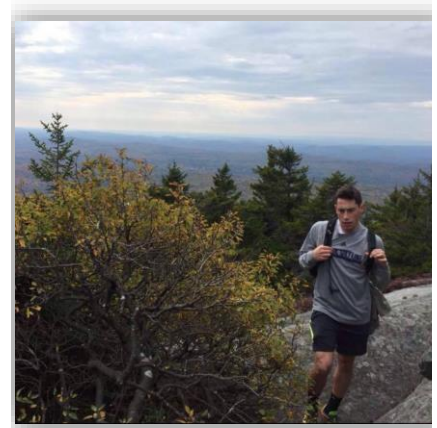
Upon graduating from CE nearly six months ago, Andrew began his position as a business development consultant at Oracle in Boston, focusing on business intelligence and data analytics. "I think the Community Development and Applied Economics Department at the University of Vermont helped me be prepared for life after college. Learning about the triple bottom

line and working in groups for service learning projects is extremely applicable for many jobs," said Andrew.

Doug Kelsey



Andrew Schwartz



CDAE 166 Continues Its Fundraising Success

Professor Rob Williams and Professor Kelly Hamshaw co-teach *Introduction to Community Entrepreneurship* (CDAE 166) in Fall 2016. "Our CDAE 166 course offers our students the opportunity to jump in and work with a team to invent and deploy an actual product and experience the joys and challenges of running a business first hand," said Rob. "CDAE 166 emphasizes student tenacity, enthusiasm, and ingenuity, which are all important characteristics of an entrepreneur," said Kelly. "The students' hard work and the support from the CDAE 166 team have been critical for the success of this semester's course." The support team includes three teaching assistants - Zachary Chernick, Kayla Keefner, and Taylor Thompson and CDAE staff members (e.g., Elisa Ziglar). All profits from the Dollar Enterprise businesses go to charities. The student groups have raised around \$2660 this semester.



Campus Fundraising



About Dollar Enterprise

Created by our former CDAE faculty member Kathleen Liang in 2005, the Dollar Enterprise program has become a staple of CDAE 166 - *Introduction to Community Entrepreneurship*. Students are given \$1 and work in teams to create and operate small business ventures on campus to benefit charity organizations focused on youth development, mentoring, homeless, and health services.

Bristol Capstone for CID

This semester Professor Kelly Hamshaw taught "Local Community Initiatives" (CDAE 295), a capstone service learning course for CID majors or minors. The course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to explore their knowledge, skills, and future aspirations in the field of asset-based community development while gaining real-world experience as a "community development consultant." Students work with community partners in Bristol, Vermont to provide a variety of deliverables on behalf of Bristol CORE, a non-profit organization comprised of local community members and business owners committed to increasing and maintaining the economic vitality of downtown Bristol. Each student is expected to create a professional portfolio from the course.

Kelly in Bristol



Real Food Challenge at CDAE

In 2012, the University of Vermont signed the pledge to take the real food challenge (RFC) of committing to 20 percent real food by 2020. To qualify as real food, they must be sourced from within 250 miles of the campus, such as granola, maple syrup, tofu and fish. "Higher education institutions should play a vital role in enhancing the sustainability of our food systems and resiliency of our communities," said Professor David Conner, who has worked on the RFC project with Alison Nihart, a Food Systems Professional at UVM. According to Alison, UVM is on track to surpass the goal it committed to, already with 19 percent of the food purchased by UVM Dining qualified as "real" during the school year of 2015-2016.

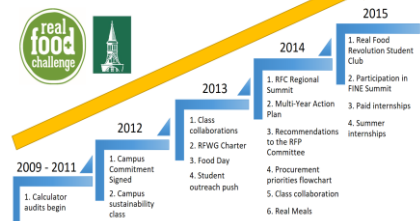
Students Studied "Real Food" at CDAE 250



What is Real Food?



The Real Food Challenge at UVM



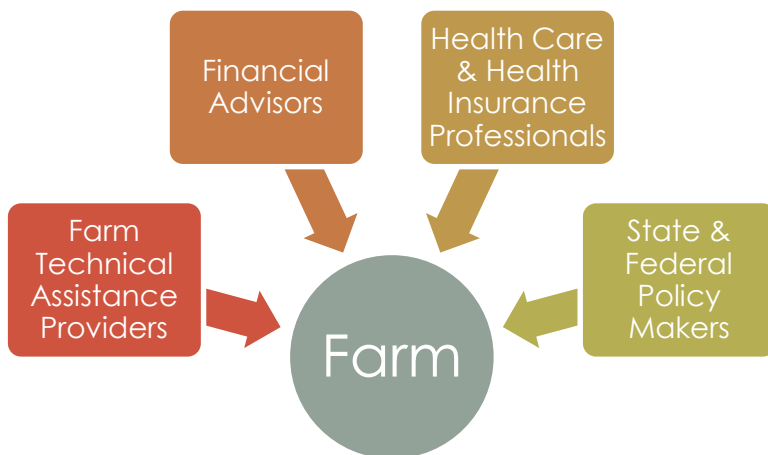
UVM Summit on Health, Agriculture & Economic Development

The UVM summit, held in November 2016, "was the first meeting in the country to bring together the agriculture and health sectors to discuss how health insurance impacts farm economic development, and quality of life," said Professor Shoshana Inwood, who helped organize the summit sponsored by the James M. Jeffords Fund Grant Program for Policy Studies at UVM. The attendees hailed from the health, agriculture, tax, government, and extension sectors in Vermont. Shoshana Inwood is one of the lead investigators of a USDA-AFRI project, titled HIREdAg, which tries to understand how health insurance reform is affecting economic development and quality of life in the farm sector.

Shoshana Inwood
at the Summit



Current Outreach Approach



New and Coordinated Statewide Approach



CDAE People in the News

Sam Donnelly -- CID and CEnt '20, received a \$2,500 grant from Special Olympics to create a social-inclusion class at Vermont high schools. He plans to launch the semester-long class at Burlington High School and Champlain Valley Union High School in Fall 2018. He will attend a global summit in Austria in March 2017. For more information on his grant, please check out: <http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/story/news/education/university-of-vermont/2016/11/19/uvm-student-wins-social-inclusion-grant/93552434/>.

Josh Farley -- CDAE professor, gave a talk at a webinar titled "In Conversation: Economy After Fossil Fuels," held by Post Carbon Institute on Dec. 13, 2016. Along with his fellow panelists, Josh discussed a 100% renewable energy future and explored such questions as the function of GDP in human wellbeing, and the survival of capitalism under climate change.

Dan Baker -- CDAE associate professor, was interviewed on ABC 22 (WVNY) Channel 22, for his reactions to the potential deportations of migrant dairy workers in Vermont under the new Trump administration. He warned that mass deportations would be devastating to Vermont dairy industry. For more information on the interview, please check out: <http://www.mychamplainvalley.com/news/migrant-justice-our-entire-community-feels-fear#.WCcnLeU2oGQ.facebook>.

Sam Donnelly
Freshman
Grant Recipient



Dan Baker



Recent Faculty Publications

Carmack, H. J., Bedi, S., & Heiss, S. N. (2016). Socializing international students to US health: Memorable health messages about university health centers and American healthcare. *Journal of International Students*, 6(1), 52-72. <http://jistudents.org/>

Hamshaw, K., Inwood, S., Kolodinsky, J., and Needle, M. (In Press). Generating knowledge to inform regional planning for sustainability: The roles of community engagement and indicators in the ECOS Project. In S. Kenney, B. McGrath, R. Phillips (Eds.), *The Handbook of Community Development: Perspectives from Around the Globe*. London: Routledge.

Courtney A. Cuthbertson, Assa Dembélé, John Leatherman, Scott Loveridge, Jessica Tess, Suzanne Lo, Bob Stephens, Jane Kolodinsky, Kelly Hamshaw, Holly Larson Lesko, Mary Beth Dunkenberger, Nancy White, Ann Sherrard, Christina MacFarlane (2016). *Community-Responsive Behavioral Health Research: Translating Data for Public Consumption and Decision Making*. *Community Development Practice*. 20: 36-48.

Kolodinsky, Jane (2016). *Consumer Access and Choice in Sustainable Food Systems*. In Morath, Sarah, ed. *Farm to Fork*, Akron, OH: University of Akron Press.

Farley, J. and D. Malghan (eds.) (2016, In Press) *Beyond Uneconomic Growth: Ecological Economics and the Future of the Planet*. Edward Elgar, London

Farley, J. (2016, In Press) *Capitalism and the Steady State: Uneasy Bedfellows*. In H. Washington and P. Twomey (Eds.), *A Future Beyond Growth*. Routledge, New York.

Frechette, Julie and Rob Williams, editors. *MEDIA EDUCATION FOR A DIGITAL GENERATION*. (New York: Routledge, 2016). <https://www.routledge.com/Media-Education-for-a-Digital-Generation/Frechette-Williams/p/book/9781138927667>

Heiss, S. N. & Bates, B. R. (2016). When a spoonful of fallacies helps the sweetener go down: The Corn Refiner Association's opportunistic representation of high fructose corn syrup. *Health Communication*. doi: 10.1080/10410236.2015.1027988

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Koliba, C. Wiltshire, S., Scheinert, S. Turner, D., Zia, A., and Campbell, E. 2016. The Critical Role of Information Sharing to the Value Proposition of a Food Systems Network. *Public Management Review*. doi.org/10.1080/14719037.2016.1209235

Koliba, C., Zia, A., Schroth, A., Bomblies, A., Van Houten, J., Rizzo, D. 2016. Lake Champlain Basin as a Complex Adaptive System: Key Findings from the Research on Adaptation to Climate Change Project. *Vermont Journal of Environmental Law*. 17(4):533-563.

McMahon, Edward R. and Johnson, Elissa. "Evolution Not Revolution: An Analysis of the First and Second Cycles of the U.N. Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review Mechanism". The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Geneva, October, 2016. <http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/iez/global/12806.pdf>

Wang, Q., R. Parsons, J. Colby and J. Castle (2016) "Value-Added Dairy Products from Grass-Based Dairy Farms: A Case Study in Vermont." *Journal of Extension*. Volume 54 // Number 3 /

CDAE by the Numbers

The Community Development and Applied Economics Department (CDAE) is part of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Vermont. CDAE supports sustainable local, regional, and international communities through transdisciplinary research, education, and outreach that serve the public interest.

36 MPA and MS students

102 Community International Development majors

117 Community Entrepreneurship majors

268 Public Communication majors

255 Minors (applied design, community entrepreneurship, community and international development, consumer affairs, consumer and advertising, green building and community design, public communication)

\$1,154,696 funded research

This CDAE newsletter was written by Taylor Bell and Zach Chernick, edited by Tao Sun and Jane Kolodinsky. To suggest a story or feature for the next newsletter, please send an email to cdae@uvm.edu.

CDAE engages our high-achieving students with Vermont communities and beyond. Your donation will help the Department continue to build partnerships and stronger communities for all of us. Annual gifts from alumni and friends at all levels do make a difference.

Please consider supporting the Department with a **donation** of any size. Gifts may be made online at the Development Office's secure website: <http://alumni.uvm.edu/giving>. Please specify CDAE in the "Other" category.



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